IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication device comprising:

a physical layer adapted to transmit a reservation request (RR) about an impending transmission of data;

a second layer on top of the physical layer; ~~, the second layer adapted to generate a tag about the impending transmission and impart the tag in the RR; and~~

a third network layer on top of the second layer, the third network layer adapted to generate a tag about the impending transmission of data and impart the tag in the RR; and

wherein the ~~second~~ third layer also includes a tag generation module for encoding in the tag a priority of the impending transmission that is then received and decoded in a receiving wireless device at a Medium Access Control (MAC) layer to resolve the reservation request for the impending transmission of data.

2. (Original) A wireless communication device comprising:

a physical layer adapted to receive a reservation request (RR);

a second layer on top of the physical layer, the second layer adapted to receive the RR from the physical layer; and

a network layer on top of the second layer,

wherein the second layer is adapted to process and finally resolve the received RR without accessing the network layer.

3. (Original) The device of claim 2, wherein the second layer includes a BME, a RME and a SME.

4. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the ~~second layer reads a tag from the RR to determine a priority~~ the reservation request is transmitted and received according to an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard and is then decoded at the MAC layer in the receiving wireless device without the reservation request advancing to a third network layer .

5. (Original) The device of claim 2, wherein
the second layer is adapted to process and finally resolve the RR based on QoS considerations.

~~7.~~ 6. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

~~a physical medium; and~~

a processor ~~coupled with the physical medium, wherein the processor is~~ adapted to:

generate a reservation request for transmitting data at a third network layer in the Open Systems Interconnect (OSI) model;

determine a priority for transmitting the data at the third network layer;

generate a tag that encodes the priority at the third network layer;

pass the data and the tag to a medium access control layer;

examine the data to determine a required bandwidth for transmission;

encode the tag and the bandwidth in a reservation request frame; and

then transmit the reservation request frame to a wireless receiving device that decodes the tag in the reservation request frame to identify the priority and resolves the reservation request all at a Medium Access Control (MAC) layer.

~~8.~~ 7. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~7~~ 6, wherein the processor is further adapted to:

store the data in a buffer after passing it and prior to examining it.

~~9.~~ 8. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~7~~ 6, wherein the ~~priority is determined based on one of a default class and an AP designated class~~ reservation request frame is generated and transmitted according to an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard.

~~10.~~ 9. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

~~a physical medium; and~~

a processor ~~coupled with the physical medium, wherein the processor is~~ adapted to:

conduct wireless communications according to an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard;

receive a IEEE 802.11 standard reservation request frame;

decompose the reservation request frame to extract a reservation request;

decode a tag from the IEEE 802.11 standard reservation request frame while in the medium access control layer;

read the tag to identify a priority while in the medium access control layer;

examine the priority against available resources while in the medium access control layer; and

finally resolve the reservation request in terms of the examined priority while still in the medium access control layer.

~~11.~~ 10. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~10~~ 9, wherein ~~the processor is adapted to resolve the reservation request by:~~

~~determining that there are insufficient resources for meeting the reservation request; and~~

~~generating and transmitting a Reservation Request Reject frame~~ a wireless transmitting device sending the IEEE 802.11 standard reservation request frame generates the tag at a third network layer of an Open Systems Interconnect (OSI) model.

~~12.~~ 11. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~10~~ 9, wherein the processor is adapted to resolve the reservation request by:

scheduling a transmission opportunity based on the priority.

~~13.~~ 12. (Currently Amended) An article comprising: a storage medium, said storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when executed by at least one device, result in:

generating a reservation request for transmitting data at a third network layer in the Open Systems Interconnect (OSI) model;

determining a priority for transmitting the data;

generating a tag that encodes the priority at the third network layer;

passing the data and the tag to a medium access control layer;

examining the data to determine a required bandwidth for transmission;

encoding the tag and the bandwidth in a reservation request frame; and

then wirelessly transmitting the reservation request frame to a receiving device that then decodes the reservation request frame and the tag at a Medium Access Control (MAC) layer without advancing the reservation request frame to a third network layer.

~~14.~~ 13. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~13~~ 12, wherein the ~~instructions further result in:~~

~~storing the data in a buffer after passing it and prior to examining it.~~ reservation request frame is transmitted and received according to an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard.

~~15.~~ 14. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~13~~ 12, wherein

the priority is determined based on one of a default class and an AP-designated class.

~~16.~~ 15. (Currently Amended) An article comprising: a storage medium, said storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when executed by at least one device, result in:

receiving a reservation request frame generated at a third network layer in the Open Systems Interconnect (OSI) model and transmitted in accordance with an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard;

decomposing the reservation request frame to extract a reservation request;

decoding a tag from the reservation request while in the medium access control layer;

reading the tag to identify a priority while in the medium access control layer;

examining the priority against available resources while in the medium access control layer; and

finally resolving the reservation request in terms of the examined priority while still in the medium access control layer without advancing the reservation request to a third network layer.

~~17.~~ 16. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~16~~ 15, wherein the instructions result in resolving by:

determining that there are insufficient resources for meeting the reservation request; and

generating and transmitting a Reservation Request Reject frame.

~~18.~~ 17. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~16~~ 15, wherein the instructions result in resolving by:

scheduling a transmission opportunity based on the priority.

~~19.~~ 18. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

generating a reservation request for transmitting data at a third network layer in the Open Systems Interconnect (OSI) model;

determining a priority for transmitting the data;

generating a tag at the third network layer in the Open Systems Interconnect (OSI) model that encodes the priority;

passing the data and the tag to a medium access control layer;

examining the data to determine a required bandwidth for transmission;

encoding the tag and the bandwidth in a reservation request frame; and

then wirelessly transmitting the reservation request frame to a wireless receiving device that decodes the reservation request frame at the Medium Access Control (MAC) layer without advancing the reservation request frame to the third network layer.

~~20.~~ 19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~19~~ 18, further comprising:

~~storing the data in a buffer after passing it and prior to examining it.~~ transmitting and receiving the reservation request frame according to an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard.

~~21.~~ 20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~19~~ 18, wherein

the priority is determined based on one of a default class and an AP-designated class.

~~22.~~ 21. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a reservation request frame from a transmitting device that generates a reservation request in the reservation request frame at a third network layer in an Open Systems Interconnect (OSI) model and transmits the reservation request frame in accordance with an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 802.11 standard;

decomposing the reservation request frame to extract a reservation request;

decoding a tag from the reservation request while in the medium access control layer;

reading the tag to identify a priority while in the medium access control layer;

examining the priority against available resources while in the medium access control layer; and

finally resolving the reservation request in terms of the examined priority while still in the medium access control layer without ever advancing the reservation request to a third network layer.

~~23.~~ 22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ 21, wherein resolving includes:

determining that there are insufficient resources for meeting the reservation request; and

generating and transmitting a Reservation Request Reject frame.

~~24.~~ 23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ 21, wherein resolving includes:

scheduling a transmission opportunity based on the priority.